

2016 Child Care Annual Immunization Survey

All licensed and registered child care facilities and homes are required by Vermont law to complete and submit an annual immunization survey to the Vermont Department of Health. Only aggregate (combined) data is reported – data about individual children is not reported.

In 2015-16, 65.4% of all licensed and registered child care facilities completed the annual immunization survey. Although far less than the 100% response rates for Vermont schools, this is the highest rate since reporting was first required in 2012. Of the facilities that completed the survey, 47% were licensed (center-based) and 53% were registered (family home) facilities.

Those facilities reporting represented almost 15,000 children (n=14,918) younger than age five, receiving care (full or part-time) in Vermont's child care facilities. A vast majority of children were vaccinated. Survey results indicate that 92.6% were up-to-date on all required vaccines for their age. According to the survey, 3.8% of children were provisionally admitted, meaning they were not up-to-date on all required vaccines and did not have a signed exemption. The rate of non-medical exemptions was 0.5% for religious and 3.1% for philosophical. The medical exemption rate was 0.1%.

Legislation passed in May 2015, required that aggregate immunization rates for all *licensed* child care facilities be made publicly available annually. The Health Department will post the 2016 immunization rates for each licensed child care facility that reported its rates by July 1, 2016.

The Health Department is collaborating with the Department of Children and Families, Child Development Division (DCF/CDD) to make the annual survey more accessible and easier to complete for all child care providers. Beginning in Fall 2016, the survey will be conducted through the DCF/CDD. By 2017, the goal is to fully integrate the survey into the Bright Futures Information System (BFIS).